

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address February 9, 2017

SCOTUS Nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch

Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

Last week, President Trump announced the nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia on the United States Supreme Court. Judge Gorsuch currently serves in the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Similar to Justice Scalia, Judge Gorsuch exhibits respect and deference for the constitutional authority of the legislative branch. As he so eloquently stated in his acceptance speech, and quoting here...

"I respect, too, the fact that in our legal order, it is for Congress and not the courts to write new laws. It is the role of judges to apply, not alter, the work of the people's representatives." End quote.

Judge Gorsuch will undoubtedly carry on the conservative legacy and the originalist interpretation of the Constitution that was in all of Justice Scalia's opinions.

Liberal and conservative legal scholars alike have praised the nomination of Judge Gorsuch. He is universally respected for his integrity and fairness to all parties and this will prove constructive on the Supreme Court bench.

Now that the nomination has been announced, the Senate Judiciary Committee will begin confirmation hearings. Following the hearings, a vote will be held on the Senate floor to confirm Judge Gorsuch. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer has said Democrats plan to filibuster the nomination. This will then require a 60 vote threshold to end the filibuster.

It's actually a shame that two justices currently sitting on the bench were confirmed with less than 60 Senate votes. And the last nominee to face a filibuster was Chief Justice William Rehnquist in 1986. Despite Democratic claims, the use of the filibuster is unusual for nominations to the high court.

In 2006, Judge Gorsuch was unanimously confirmed by the Senate to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. It is my hope that once again the Senate will move quickly to confirm this outstanding nominee to the United States Supreme Court bench.

As always, I appreciate your comments and your questions on this issue or any other issue. May God bless you and your family and as the song says, God bless you Texas.